

**TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**September 12, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Hounsfield was called to order by Supervisor Timothy Scee at 7PM, at the Town Hall, 18774 Co. Rt. 66 and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Board members present were, Supervisor Scee, C'man Stephen Lee, C'man Todd Farrington, C'man Vincent Battista, and C'man Richard Young.

After a change to the August 8, 2012 Town Board minutes, on page 2, first paragraph (C'man Young reported that Hay Memorial Library's Board met but he was unable to attend.) C'man Lee made a motion and C'man Farrington 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve these minutes. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

In correspondence, Supervisor Scee received a letter from Frontier Housing with criteria to apply for a grant for repairs to residents homes. He also received a poster for ordering reflective 911 signs from the Fire Department and order forms are available at the Town Clerk's office. A notice was received for a Meet and Greet for the Greater Sackets Harbor Camber on September 18<sup>th</sup> at Goodfellows. Mayor Constance was present to make an announcement that Matt Doheny, a candidate for congress, will be at the Village Hall in Sackets Harbor on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM to meet with residents .

Supervisor Scee also announced that there will be a Parkinson's Awareness Walk on September 22<sup>nd</sup> in Sackets Harbor and the proceeds will go to the National Foundation.

At this time the Supervisor's Report for August was read by the Clerk to the Supervisor: Total receipts \$223,768.00, Total disbursements \$240,367.22, Total checking account balance \$66,690.39, and Total investments \$751,904.34.

A motion was made by C'man Battista and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Farrington to accept the Supervisor's Report. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

Abstract #9, vouchers #496-571 was presented: General Fund A \$12,275.63, General Fund B \$3,535.54, Lakeside Cemetery Fund \$2,803.92, Highway Fund A \$11,833.64, Highway Fund B \$10,242.60, Water District 2 \$6,575.15, Water District 1 \$14,014.10, Water District 4 \$11,692.05, Water District 3 \$625.12, Water District 5 Capital Fund \$87,794.19, Consolidated Health \$520.00, Abstract Total \$161,911.94.

After questioning two bills, C'man Farrington made a motion to pay the bills in Abstract #9 and C'man Battista 2<sup>nd</sup>. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

At this time representatives of the engineering firm Barton & Loguidice, Syracuse, NY gave a power point presentation to the Board.

C'man Lee reported that he attended a progress meeting for construction of Water Dist. 5 and a representative of Bernier Carr will give a detailed report later this evening. He also attended a Comprehensive Plan Committee meeting and surveys are available for residents to fill out.

C'man Lee also attended the Economic Development Committee meeting and he is pleased with the progress of the Director so far. One change to report to the Board is that the director will be paid as an independent contractor instead of an employee of the Chamber, which was originally stated to avoid additional costs. C'man Lee asked if the Board members were in agreement with the change and all were in agreement but Supervisor Scee stated that he didn't like the way it was handled. His opinion was that the Board should have been asked or at least notified before the change took place.

At the last Water Committee meeting, attended by C'man Lee, recommendations were made to adjust two kinds of Special Benefit Unit Assessments (EDU) for water districts 2-5. The first is for a garage which is now 5 units and the second is for a veterinarian clinic which is now 1 unit. The recommendation for these two businesses is 1 unit for 0-10 employees, 2 units for 11-20 employees and so on. After a discussion was held C'man Lee made a motion and C'man Young 2<sup>nd</sup> to change the EDU criteria for a garage and a veterinarian clinic to fit the recommendation of the Water Committee. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Scee to allow the Highway Superintendent to advertise for bids on two snow plows for the new pick up trucks. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

C'man Lee asked about the status of a request from Harbor Dairy for extra water and Supervisor Scee reported that the dairy has asked for 30,000 more gallons of water daily. Bernier Carr has met with them to check the specs of new laterals and a request to the Village of Sackets Harbor for additional water has been approved. The Dept. of Health also needs to approve the water line.

C'man Young was not notified of a meeting for East Hounsfield Library and the next Hay Memorial meeting is 9/20/12.

C'man Young reported that the first union negotiation session was held on 8/27/12 and the next session will be on 9/18/12.

C'man Battista reported that he attended the Fire Dept. meeting and there were 13 ambulance calls and 9 fire calls answered last month. Preparations are being made for a Garrett Loomis Run and a Golf Tournament to be held later this month.

C'man Farrington reported that he attended the Recreation Commission meeting.

The Highway Superintendent gave a work report for August. C'man Battista asked about the trees at Muskellunge Cemetery. Mr. Alcombrack has looked at them and he thinks he can cut them with the bucket truck.

Supervisor Scee brought up a proposal from the Village of Sackets Harbor to haul contaminated soil to the Rodman landfill for a rate to be agreed upon and hauling of stone back to the site. C'man Battista made a motion and C'man Lee 2<sup>nd</sup> for the Town to work for the Village hauling this soil and stone. All voted aye and the motion was carried. DEC permits will be in place before this can be done.

A report was given by the Town Clerk for collections for the month of August.

Supervisor Scee has a written report from the Economic Development Director.

Corey Reed was present from Bernier Carr to give an update on Water District 5.

In the matter of Galloo Island, Supervisor Scee has asked for a letter from Upstate Power indicating that they are responsible for any outstanding legal bills regarding the Galloo Island Wind Farm project.

After a discussion, C'man Farrington made a motion and C'man Battista 2<sup>nd</sup> that the Town of Hounsfield terminate legal services from Schwerzmann & Wise regarding the Galloo Island Wind Farm project. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Battista to approve an amended emergency water agreement with the Town of Watertown, increasing the emergency wheeling allotment by 20,000 gallons per day to a total of 35,000 per day. All voted aye and the motion was carried. This new agreement will facilitate a water supply permit from DEC for Water District 5.

Supervisor Scee explained that since the Jefferson County charge-backs must be included in the Town's 2013 Budget, it may drive us over the 2% tax cap. After discussion C'man Lee made a motion and C'man Battista 2<sup>nd</sup> for Resolution #12-32 introducing Local Law #3 of 2012, which the intent is to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Town of Hounsfield pursuant to General Municipal Law #3-c, and to allow the Town of Hounsfield to adopt a budget for the coming fiscal year that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law #3-c. A public hearing is set for October 10, 2012 at 7 PM at the Town Hall immediately before the regular meeting of the Town Board. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Battista for Resolution #12-33 to authorize the Town of Hounsfield Justices to prepare an application for a Justice Court Assistance Program Grant which would assist in the operation of our Justice Court. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by C'man Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Young to allow Supervisor Scee to sign the Justice Grant application once completed. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

At this time the floor was opened for public comment and Paul Warneck was present and asked if the Board needs to wait 7 days between introducing a local law and setting a public hearing. The Town Attorney commented that is not true as long as the public hearing is advertised properly. Mr. Warneck asked the Board if the tentative budget can be posted on the Town website. Helene Rainville was also present to make the Board aware that as a Fire Dept. member, she has received yet another certified letter from the Fire Dept. saying that she is being investigated because of a complaint of another Fire Dept. member. She will leave a copy of the letter for the Town Supervisor since the Fire Dept. did not send him one, even though the Town shares funding of the department.

Supervisor Scee announced that a budget work session will be held on Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

A motion was made by C'man Young and 2<sup>nd</sup> by C'man Farrington to go into executive session to discuss negotiations of the union contract for the highway employees. All voted aye and the motion was carried.

At 9:46 pm the Board returned from executive session and the meeting was adjourned. Submitted by Diane M. Nier, Town Clerk.